

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the title as follows:

[A NOVEL THERAPY FOR] DETECTION OF ANTIBODY MEDIATED  
INFLAMMATORY AUTO-IMMUNE DISORDERS

On page 1, before 'FIELD OF INVENTION', please insert a new paragraph entitled RELATED INFORMATION This application is a continuation of United States Serial No. 09/684,601, filed on October 6, 2000. The priority of this prior application is expressly claimed and the disclosure of this prior application is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please revise the abstract as follows:

The present invention describes a method to detect [novel therapy to modulate the] connective tissue pathologies associated with Graves' disease ophthalmopathy and other antibody mediated inflammatory autoimmune diseases. The [therapy] detection method comprises obtaining [administering to] a sample from a patient suffering from an antibody-mediated inflammatory autoimmune disorder and measuring [an] Interleukin 16 (IL-16) [activity inhibitor and/] or [a] RANTES produced by thyroid associated ophthalmopathy fibroblasts to indicate the presence or severity. [activity inhibitor in order to decrease the proliferation of CD4-bearing leukocytes at the site of the disease. An especially preferred IL-16 activity inhibitor for use in the therapeutic methods of the present invention is rapamycin, and an especially preferred RANTES inhibitor for use in the present invention is compound PD098059]